This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the Application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 through 97 are cancelled.

Claim 98.(currently amended) A knee prosthesis comprising, a metal base having upper and lower surfaces, an anchoring rod extending from said lower surface for fixing the metal base into a tibia of a patient, a plastic tibial plate having a lower surface for engaging said upper surface of said metal base, said upper surface of said metal base including a central portion through which a tibia bone axis (Y,Y') extends when the anchoring rod is fitted into the tibia of the patient and an anterial portion spaced radially outwardly of said central portion, at least one guide means defining an arcuately oriented guide structure extending upwardly only from said anterial portion of said upper surface of said metal base and spaced in a medio-lateral direction from said central portion for controlling any relative rotation of said tibial plate and said metal base, said arcuately oriented guide structure defining an arc having a

center of rotation (C,C′) within said central portion of said upper surface of said metal base about which said tibial plate may rotate, and a recess in said lower surface of said tibial plate of an arcuate shape for cooperatively receiving said at least one guide means of said metal base such that any relative rotation between said tibial plate and said metal base is determined by an arcuate length of said recess relative to an effective arcuate length of said at least one guide means.

Claim 99.(previously presented) The knee prosthesis of claim 98 wherein said at least one guide means includes at least one upstand in the shape of an arc of a circle.

Claim 100.(withdrawn) The knee prosthesis of claim 99 wherein said tibial plate includes a peripheral edge, said recess being formed along said peripheral edge, said anterial portion of said upper surface of said metal base extending to a peripheral edge of said metal base, and said at least one upstand extending from said peripheral edge of said metal base.

Claim 101.(withdrawn) The knee prosthesis of claim 100 in which said upstand includes an arcuate retaining flange which extends toward the center of rotation (C,C′) and is selectively

receivable within a horizontal slot formed in said periphery of said tibial plate.

Claim 102.(withdrawn) The knee prosthesis of claim 98 wherein said at least one guide means includes at least two pegs which are spaced so as to define an arc of a circle.

Claim 103.(currently amended) ~~The knee prosthesis of claim 98 in which~~ A knee prosthesis comprising, a metal base having upper and lower surfaces, an anchoring rod extending from said lower surface for fixing the metal base into a tibia of a patient, a plastic tibial plate having a lower surface for engaging said upper surface of said metal base, said upper surface of said metal base including a central portion through which a tibia bone axis (Y,Y') extends when the anchoring rod is fitted into the tibia of the patient and an anterial portion spaced radially outwardly of said central portion, at least one guide means defining an arcuately oriented guide structure extending upwardly from said anterial portion of said upper surface of said metal base for controlling any relative rotation of said tibial plate and said metal base, said arcuately oriented guide structure defining an arc having a center of rotation (C,C') within said central portion of said upper surface of said

metal base about which said tibial plate may rotate, and a recess in said lower surface of said tibial plate of an arcuate shape for cooperatively receiving said at least one guide means of said metal base such that any relative rotation between said tibial plate and said metal base is determined by an arcuate length of said recess relative to an effective arcuate length of said at least one guide means, and said at least one guide means ~~includes~~ including a continuous upstand in the shape of an arc of a circle having a central portion from which extend opposite lateral portions and wherein said central portion extends outwardly above said upper surface of said metal base at a greater distance that said lateral portions.

Claim 104.(currently amended) The knee prosthesis of claim [[98]] 103 in which the center of rotation (C,C′) is generally aligned with the tibial bone vertical axis (Y,Y′).

Claim 105.(withdrawn) The knee prosthesis of claim 98 wherein the center of rotation (C,C′) is offset with respect to the tibial bone vertical axis (Y,Y′).

Claim 106.(withdrawn) The knee prosthesis of claim 105 wherein the center of rotation (C,C′) is in a posterior position

with respect to the tibial bone vertical axis (Y,Y′).

Claim 107.(withdrawn) The knee prosthesis of claim 98 further including a centering element of cylindrical profile extending upwardly from said upper surface of said metal base so as to be coaxial with the center of rotation (C,C′).

Claim 108.(withdrawn) The knee prosthesis of claim 98 including a retaining member mounted to said metal base and which is cooperatively receivable within an opening in said tibial plate for preventing said tibial plate from being lifted from engagement from said metal base when mounted thereto.

Claim 109.(withdrawn) The knee prosthesis of claim 108 wherein said retaining member includes a peg extending from the center of rotation (C,C′) on said metal base and said opening in said tibial plate being aligned with said peg.

Claim 110.(withdrawn) The knee prosthesis of claim 108 wherein said retaining member includes a cylindrical pin extending from said upper surface of said metal base and axially aligned with the center of rotation (C,C′) on the metal base,

said pin including an integral head having a laterally extending edge, and said opening including a cutout for receiving a portion of said laterally extending edge of said head.

Claim 111.(withdrawn) The knee prosthesis of claim 108 wherein said retaining member includes a second upstand in the configuration of an arc of a circle having a central axis at the center of rotation (C,C′) of said tibial plate, and said second upstand including a lateral arcuate flange of a configuration to snap fit within a slot formed in the opening of said tibial plate.

Claim 112.(withdrawn) The knee prosthesis of claim 108 wherein said retaining member includes a second upstand in the shape of an arc of a circle curved in a direction opposite to a curvature of said at least one guide means, said second upstand being positioned so as to have a axis of rotation at the axis of rotation (C,C′), and said second upstand including a laterally extending arcuate flange of a configuration to snap fit with a slot formed in the opening of said tibial plate.

Claim 113.(withdrawn) The knee prosthesis of claim 98 wherein each of said metal base and said tibial plate include

cutouts through which a posterior cruciate ligament may pass.

Claim 114.(withdrawn) The knee prosthesis of claim 98 including an arcuate upstand extending upwardly from said upper surface of said metal base and having a center of rotation which is axially aligned with the center of rotation (C,C′), and an opening in said lower surface of said tibial plate of a size to cooperatively receive the said arcuate upstand therein.

Claim 115.(new) The knee prosthesis of claim 98 in which the center of rotation (C,C′) is generally aligned with the tibial bone vertical axis (Y,Y′).